

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claim 9 has been canceled.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-13, and 16-20 are now pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 1, 2, 4-6, 13, and 16-20, and the indication that claim 9 includes allowable subject matter. Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 9.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 7, 8, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 8-133086. Claims 7 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,042,055. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 8-133086 or U.S. Patent No. 4,042,055 in view of U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0090225. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 8-133086 or U.S. Patent No. 4,042,055 in view of JP 2000-318473.

Claims 8 and 10-12 depend from claim 7. Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 9. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 7, 8, and 10-12 are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.


Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance.
Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date OCT 29 2007

By 

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5426
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Glenn Law
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 34,371